

Serial No.: 09/469,499

Response to Office Action Mailed December 23, 2004

**Amendments To The Claims**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1-47 (Cancelled).

1        48 (Previously Presented). A reproduction protection method for operating on  
2        main data which are conveyed by a data medium, the method comprising the steps of:  
3        detecting medium protection data which are specific to each of predetermined  
4        data pieces within said main data and are also conveyed by said data medium;  
5        detecting protection position information which specifies a position of said  
6        predetermined data pieces within said main data at which to apply reproduction  
7        protection, said protection position information also being conveyed by said data  
8        medium;  
9        assigning a medium protection level in units of video signal frames, based  
10       upon said medium protection data;  
11       limiting reproduction of said main data based upon at least a film classification  
12       system;  
13       generating apparatus protection data which comprise at least first apparatus  
14       protection data and second apparatus protection data,  
15       wherein said first apparatus protection data are specific to a region or country  
16       in which said main data are to be reproduced and can not be modified by a recipient

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17 of said reproduced main data, and wherein said second apparatus protection data can  
18 be modified by said recipient to selectively define a plurality of protection levels  
19 including at least two levels which are respectively specific to adults and to children;  
20 defining a protection level based on said medium protection data and said  
21 apparatus protection data in combination; and  
22 executing reproduction of said main data in accordance with said protection  
23 level,  
24 wherein the combination of said medium protection data and said first  
25 apparatus protection data determines whether said main data are reproduced in their  
26 entirety or not at all, and the combination of said medium protection data and said  
27 second apparatus protection data determines whether said main data are reproduced in  
28 their entirety, partially, or not at all.

1 2 (Currently Amended). A data medium for transferring main data to a  
2 reproduction apparatus for reproduction by said reproduction apparatus, characterized  
3 in that:

4 said data medium also transfers medium protection data which are respectively  
5 specific to each of predetermined data pieces within said main data and are also  
6 conveyed by said data medium;

7 said data medium also transfers protection position information which specifies  
8 a position of said predetermined data pieces within said main data at which to apply

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9    [[said]] reproduction protection, said protection position information also being  
10   conveyed by said data medium;

11        said medium protection data assigns a medium protection level in units of  
12   video signal frames;

13        the reproduction apparatus generates apparatus protection data which comprise  
14   at least first apparatus protection data and second apparatus protection data,

15        wherein said first apparatus protection data are specific to a region or country  
16   in which the reproduction apparatus is to be used, and

17        said first apparatus protection data can not be modified by a user of the  
18   reproduction apparatus; and

19        said second apparatus protection data can be modified by the user to selectively  
20   define a plurality of protection levels including at least two levels which are  
21   respectively specific to adults and to children, and

22        said medium protection data and said apparatus protection data in combination  
23   specify a degree of restriction on said reproduction of the main data by said  
24   reproduction apparatus,

25        wherein the combination of said medium protection data and said first  
26   apparatus protection data specifies that said main data are reproduced in their entirety  
27   or not at all, and the combination of said medium protection data and said second  
28   apparatus protection data specifies that said main data are reproduced in their entirety,  
29   partially, or not at all.